REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

The Examiner objected to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter and rejected claims 1-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

Claim 1

In particular the Examiner requests clarification of some terms with respect to claim 1. Some examples are provided to assist the Examiner. However, the Examples provided herewith are not intended to limit or otherwise interpret the claims.

The Examiner recited "at least one liquid crystal panel for generating an image". Referring to Figure 7, the transmissive imager 82 generates an image.

The Examiner recited ", and which together with said polarizer, acts to polarize light from said light source generally into a uniaxial orientation". Referring to Figure 7, the polarizer 86 acts together with the imager 82.

The Examiner recited "where said birefringence of each respective region is based on the variance of the polarization of the incident light on the incident face of the respective region from the uniaxial orientation". Different regions of the image from the transmissive 82 include different amounts of rotation from the uniaxial orientation. The variance from that uniaxial orientation, or in other words the amount of change from the uniaxial orientation, is used as the basis for selecting the birefringence of each region of the polarization compensator, such as the compensator shown in Figure 9.

The Examiner recited ",where said birefringence reduces said variance". The polarization compensator reduces the amount of variance, or in otherwise the change from the uniaxial orientation.

Claim 17

In particular the Examiner requests clarification of some terms with respect to claim 17. Some examples are provided to assist the Examiner. However, the Examples provided herewith are not intended to limit or otherwise interpret the claims.

The Examiner recited "providing light generally polarized in a uniaxial orientation". Referring to Figure 7, the generally polarized light may be the light exiting the polarizer 86.

The Examiner recited "of the polarization of light at a first location and a second location of said image". Referring to Figure 5, it is shown that the light is polarized different at two different locations.

The Examiner recited "reducing said variance at said first and second locations". Referring to Figure 6, it is shown that the variance is reduced at two different locations.

The Examiner recited "where said reduction at said first location is different than said reduction at said second location". Referring to Figures 5 and 6, it is apparent that the reduction in the variation is different, depending on the location.

In light of the forgoing comments it should be clear that claims 1 and 17 are not inconsistent. The applicant would note that the determination of the variance, would be in most cases, not performed dynamically by the system but rather a measured quantity where the polarization compensator reduces such variance.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 11, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Iba, U.S. Patent No. 5,854,665. Iba discloses a LCD having an intermediate layer comprising a planar distribution phase plate (see FIGS. 12 and 14, elements 40 and 55, respectively). The planar distribution phase plate has a continuous phase distribution that varies concentrically from its center. (See col. 11, line 66 - col. 12, line 7). This phase distribution is achieved by either stretching a sheet of transparent plastic material (col. 12, lines 14-20), photolithography (col. 12, lines 20-22) or by layering successively smaller sizes of retardation films (col. 12, lines 27-34).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to claim the polarization compensator is located substantially coincident with where the angular distribution of the light is directly related to its physical location within the projection display system.

Independent claim 1, as amended is patentably distinguishes over Iba, which merely discloses a liquid crystal panel with some form of a polarization compensator included

therein. There is no suggestion nor teaching that the particular location of the polarization compensator within Iba has an advantageous location. Locating the polarization compensator at the claimed location permits to achieve maximum polarization correction effect.

The Examiner may apparently relay on other references to suggest that the location of the polarization compensator would be merely a design choice. The applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's suggestion since the polarization correction effect may be achieved by locating the polarization compensator at nearly an endless set of positions within the projection system. There is no teaching within Iba, nor the other references, that the particular claimed location for such a polarization converter would be an obvious design choice.

Claims 2-16 depend from independent claim 1 and are patentably distinguishable over Iba for the same reasons as is independent claim 1.

Independent claim 17 has been amended to claim that the variance is reduced at a location substantially coincident with where the angular distribution of the light is directly related to its physical location. Independent claim 17, as amended is patentably distinguishes over Iba, which merely discloses a liquid crystal panel with some form of a polarization compensator included therein. There is no suggestion nor teaching that the particular location of the polarization compensator within Iba has an advantageous location. Locating the polarization compensator at the claimed location permits to achieve maximum polarization correction effect.

The Examiner may apparently relay on other references to suggest that the location of the polarization compensator would be merely a design choice. The applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's suggestion since the polarization correction effect may be achieved by locating the polarization compensator at nearly an endless set of positions within the projection system. There is no teaching within Iba, nor the other references, that the particular claimed location for such a polarization converter would be an obvious design choice.

Claims 18-33 depend from independent claim 17 and are patentably distinguishable over Iba for the same reasons as is independent claim 17.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and

allowance are respectfully requested.

The applicant respectfully requests that an updated Filing Receipt be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes that for any reason direct contact with applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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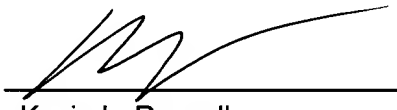
By: 

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